

20020324.ba v03_n312.bam.20020324

>From ???@??? Sun Mar 24 20:06:29 2002 -0600
Message-Id: <200203250206.g2P26Brh025147@sco.theporch.com>
Date: Sun, 24 Mar 2002 20:05:47 CST
From: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 3312

BOATANCHORS Digest 3312

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) viking I lo volt choke
by w5sum@glowbugs.com
- 2) RE: Musical CW
by "Mike D." <hrg@cifnet.com>
- 3) Re: Mechanical filter repair website
by john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
- 4) New Website Address
by "James C. Garland" <4cx250b@miaavx1.acs.muohio.edu>
- 5) Re: Musical CW
by "Garey Barrell" <k4oah@mindspring.com>
- 6) Re: viking I lo volt choke
by Larry Bearse <lbearse@rcn.com>
- 7) Re: buying resistors online?
by "John Page" <k4kwm@hotmail.com>
- 8) Re: Mechanical filter repair website
by John Kolb <jlkolb@cts.com>
- 9) Re: buying resistors online?
by Richard Loken <richardlo@devax.admin.athabascau.ca>
- 10) Re: Mechanical filter repair website
by john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
- 11) WTB: Collins 30L-1 Amplifier
by "Gary Franklin" <franklin@net-link.net>
- 12) Halli HT-7 ?
by BEN NOCK <G4BXD@compuserve.com>
- 13) Re: Mechanical filter repair website
by Tom B <tbryan@nova.org>
- 14) Re: Halli HT-7 ?
by Al Klase <skywaves@bw.webex.net>
- 15) ER article on the Missing SSB Report
by "David L. Thompson" <thompson@mindspring.com>
- 16) Unknown Boatanchor - Can You Identify?
by Steve Modena <AB4EL@mindspring.com>
- 17) more on buying resistors online
by Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 18) Re: New Website Address

- by "Al Parker" <anchor@ec.rr.com>
19) Re: ER article on the Missing SSB Report
by Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
20) Re: more on buying resistors online
by Jim Hill <w6ivw@cox.net>
21) Dead parrot
by Morris Odell <Morris0@vifp.monash.edu.au>

From: w5sum@glowbugs.com
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Date: Sat, 23 Mar 2002 04:31:29 -0600
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Subject: viking I lo volt choke
Message-ID: <3C9C0521.11843.5391D7E@localhost>

I have unearthed a choke here, that is labeled as a 10 voltage choke
out of an viking I. Does anyone know the value of this choke? I
don't have any information on a viking I here.

I'm trying to find a choke that is between 7 - 10 henrys @ 150 ma
to use in a project here.

any info will be greatly appreciated

thanks in advance and 73's

Ronnie

From: "Mike D." <hrq@cifnet.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: Musical CW
Date: Sat, 23 Mar 2002 07:40:05 -0600
Message-ID: <000001c1d270\$3d948c00\$042dbbd0@milner>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I remember a QSO a few years ago with bell sounding CW note. I mentioned it
to the op and on the next go around it went away. He told me someone had
connected a capacitor across the key terminals. It was a club station.

73 de Mike, N9BOR
FISTS MAC SMC ZUT

<http://www.qsl.net/n9bor>
MAC <http://www.qsl.net/mac>

di dah dit - The only Roger Beep you'll ever need.
My designated driver is a 12BY7A.

Message-Id: <3.0.3.32.20020323084901.01749208@pop-server.nc.rr.com>
Date: Sat, 23 Mar 2002 08:49:01 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
Subject: Re: Mechanical filter repair website
Cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Al,

I'm glad to hear that your experience and success matches this fellows.
I'd think the Collins units would be considerably more challenging to get
into though. Wonder how they solder sealed them without melting
the dampening material inside?

I think the observation of adding solder to the disks to "tune"
the filter is interesting...I've never heard of that before.

I do seem to remember seeing either on this list, or in ER, mention
made of deterioration of Collins filters due to a similar mechanism.
Can anyone confirm their method of construction (surely SOMEONE
here has attacked a dead Collins unit before).

I wonder if they still work when Collins air is let out of them?

John

At 10:04 PM 3/22/02 -0500, Al Klase wrote:

>Very interesting. I did this once a while ago to a Kokusai
>in a Lafayette RX. It appeared the filter was mounted in
>foam, probably urethane. The years have not been kind to
>them. Mine looked about like the pictures, and performance
>was severely compromised. I didn't hit on nail polish
>remover to dissolve the mung. I unsoldered the filter from
>the wires, and used nasty paint remover to clean it up. I
>the reassembled using fine celled polyethylene foam that the
>movers wrapped around the dishes. I don't think the PE will
>break down with age.

>

>Are Collins filters subject to the same problems?
>
>73,
>Al
>
>john wrote:
>>
>> The good news, is that this page has a great set of photos on
>> mechanical filter repair. The bad news, is that it's in Japanese...
>>
>> Oh well... the pictures are interesting!
>>
>> <http://www.ksky.ne.jp/~t-kato/hamf/myexp/MF-Repair.html>
>
>
>--
>Al Klase - N3FRQ
>skywaves@bw.webex.net
>Flemington, NJ 08822
>Web Page: <http://www.webex.net/~skywaves/home.htm>
>
>

Message-Id: <5.1.0.14.2.20020323083938.00a99370@po.muohio.edu>
Date: Sat, 23 Mar 2002 08:45:12 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: "James C. Garland" <4cx250b@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>
Subject: New Website Address
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Hi Gang,
I've changed my website URL to www.w8zr.net , which should be easier to remember than my old URL, which was so complicated I could never remember it.. We upgraded servers, so it seemed like a good time to make the change.

Also, I mentioned about a year ago that I was building a high-power autotuner to replace my trusty "Ultimate Transmatch." Well, it's done now --finally!--and if you're interested you can check it out at www.w8zr.net/eztuner/ .

Tnx and 73,

Jim Garland W8ZR

Message-ID: <003a01c1d27b\$b376c400\$6401a8c0@hp>

From: "Garey Barrell" <k4oah@mindspring.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Musical CW
Date: Sat, 23 Mar 2002 10:02:07 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Don -

I wasn't very clear in my previous answer.

What caused the bell-like sound in the rigs of old was primary keying. I'm not quite old enough (but close!) to know exactly WHY primary keying was used. I bet there is someone on here who knows why. You would have gotten the same or similar sound by keying the center tap of the transformer secondary but had higher voltage to deal with. Keying the primary resulted in lower voltage, but higher current. (I guess Mr. Ohm was right!)

I'd be interested in any ideas, or even the "right" answer, why this was done instead of cathode keying. If nothing else, it would keep clicks down!

73, Garey - K40AH
Atlanta

----- Original Message -----

From: "Garey Barrell" <k4oah@mindspring.com>
To: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2002 12:37 AM
Subject: Re: Musical CW

> Don -

>

> I'm sure there's someone on here who knows the "real" answer, but I
> think what gives you that bell-like sound is keying the primary of
the

> B+ supply. Gives you a short but noticeable "attack" and a decaying
> "tail" because of the filter caps charging and discharging.

>

> Don, W4WJ had a beautiful sound a few years ago, without using
primary

> keying. Seems to me an electrolytic capacitor across the key would
> give a similar effect, with perhaps a resistor to keep the tail from

> being too long.
>
> 73, Garey - K40AH
> Atlanta
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "Don Ehrlich" <ehrlich@olypen.com>
> To: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
> Sent: Friday, March 22, 2002 11:17 PM
> Subject: Musical CW
>
>
> Yesterday I described my latest homebrew VFO-QRP rig that I had just
> put on the air (6au6 osc, 6u8 and 6aq5 buffer-multipliers,5763
> final). He asked if I would be able to make it sound like some of
the
> bell-like cw signals of old.
>
> I confidently told him it was simple to do by just keying a carrier
AM
> modulated with a tone. Later I thought better, wondering why 120 hz
> power supply hum sounded so bad and, according to my theory, a 500
hz
> tone modulation would sound good. So I tried it in the privacy of
my
> shack into a dummy load. I used am modulation of variable frequency
> 100 to 1000 hz, modulating from 10 to 100 percent ... with both
sine
> and square wave. It all sounded BAD.
>
> I am sure it is illegal to do it on the air anyway. However, I
> remember as a kid in the 50's hearing cw in beautiful bell-like
tones
> and I heard it once a couple weeks ago as a very weak signal. Now I
> am curious. Just how was it done? Was it an accident of some kind
or
> a deliberate modulation technique. I think I have heard others say
> that it was done deliberately by cycling the key on and off at a few
> hundred hertz but I think that is a myth.
>
> Don K7FJ
>

Message-Id: <4.3.2.7.2.20020323113703.00b566d0@pop3.norton.antivirus>
Date: Sat, 23 Mar 2002 11:37:53 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: Larry Bearse <lbearse@rcn.com>

Subject: Re: viking I lo volt choke
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

According to my V1 manual that is L2, a 15H 95ma choke.
73.....Larry WA1LGQ

From: "John Page" <k4kwm@hotmail.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: buying resistors online?
Date: Sat, 23 Mar 2002 17:01:18 +0000
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed
Message-ID: <F74DXUf8EjmiDrDJexj0001684f@hotmail.com>

Try www.mendelsons.com John

>From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
>Reply-To: gumbear@pacbell.net
>To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
>Subject: buying resistors online?
>Date: Fri, 22 Mar 2002 20:46:04 -0800
>
>Where, oh where is an online distributor that stocks a comprehensive line
>of 1/2, 1 and 2 watt 2% resistors? With online ordering? When it comes to
>finding resistors on the web it's like hunting for mean cave dwellers in
>Afghanistan. Not a lot of fun. Any recommendations would be helpful.
>Thanks in advance.
>
>Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net
>

MSN Photos is the easiest way to share and print your photos:
<http://photos.msn.com/support/worldwide.aspx>

Date: Sat, 23 Mar 2002 10:49:17 -0800 (PST)
From: John Kolb <jlkolb@cts.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Mechanical filter repair website
Message-ID: <Pine.BSF.4.44.0203231047210.71408-1000000@king.cts.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Fri, 22 Mar 2002, Arden Allen wrote:

> And if that doesn't work copy and paste the entire address into your web
> browser's address window and punch <return>.
>
> > From: John Kolb <jlkolb@cts.com>
> >
> > I'm told that if you enclose long web links in brackets
> > that it can be accessed properly even if the address wraps around to
> > two lines on the browser.

Sorry, I wasn't clear. The person sending the msg should enclose the address in brackets to make it easy for the receivers of the msg.

The receivers, indeed, need to paste the address into their browser in pieces if nothing else works.

John

Date: Sat, 23 Mar 2002 13:05:14 -0600 (MDT)
From: Richard Loken <richardlo@devax.admin.athabascau.ca>
Subject: Re: buying resistors online?
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id:
<Pine.PMDF.3.95.1020323130325.541362881A-1000000@devax.admin.athabascau.ca>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Fri, 22 Mar 2002, Arden Allen wrote:

> Where, oh where is an online distributor that stocks a comprehensive line
> of 1/2, 1 and 2 watt 2% resistors? With online ordering? When it comes to
> finding resistors on the web it's like hunting for mean cave dwellers in

Electrosonic in Toronto.

<http://www.e-sonic.com>

batches of of 100 are under .05 each.

Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS
Athabasca University

Athabasca, Alberta Canada
** richardlo@admin.athabascau.ca **

Message-Id: <3.0.3.32.20020323163005.014bc774@pop-server.nc.rr.com>
Date: Sat, 23 Mar 2002 16:30:05 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
Subject: Re: Mechanical filter repair website
Cc: "boatanchors@theporch.com" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Amen,
There's a lot of good info in there!
Interesting site (and links!)
John

At 10:17 PM 3/22/02 -0500, James C. Garland wrote:

>Hi John,
>Actually, the ham who made the site, Takahiro Kato JH1WBU/JA9TTT, made an
>English translation of his entire site, including the mechanical filter
>repair page. His English is a bit weak, but a heck of lot better than my
>Japanese! And Takahiro gets a lot of credit in my book for putting forth
>the effort on behalf of all of us English-speaking blokes.
>73,
>Jim

>
>P.S. The URL for the translated site (below) is cumbersome, and if you
>can't get it to work then seek it out from the original URL.
>http://www.lycos.co.jp/translation/web/result.html?wb_url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ksky.ne.jp%2F%7Et-kato%2Fhamf%2Fmyexp%2FMF-Repair.html&wb_lp=JAEN&wb_dis=2

>
>
>
>

> 08:25 PM 3/22/2002, you wrote:

>>The good news, is that this page has a great set of photos on
>>mechanical filter repair. The bad news, is that it's in Japanese...

>>

>>Oh well... the pictures are interesting!

>>

>><http://www.ksky.ne.jp/~t-kato/hamf/myexp/MF-Repair.html>

>>

>>73

>>John

>>

>>
>>
>>-----
>>John Brewer - WB50AU/4
>>AMI #24
>>Clayton NC
>>johnmb@nc.rr.com
>>-----
>
>

Message-ID: <003001c1d2b4\$449c6150\$388f59cf@S0026042656>
From: "Gary Franklin" <franklin@net-link.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: WTB: Collins 30L-1 Amplifier
Date: Sat, 23 Mar 2002 16:47:01 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="-----_NextPart_000_002D_01C1D28A.5AFE2750"

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----=_NextPart_000_002D_01C1D28A.5AFE2750
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

I would like to buy a Collins "Winged Emblem" 30L-1 amplifier in CCA =
Excellent condition. Please furnish e-mail photos.

Thanks
Gary K8BKB

-----=_NextPart_000_002D_01C1D28A.5AFE2750
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

* * * * *
* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- *
* This post contains a forbidden message format *
* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) *
* Mail Lists at theporch.com only accept PLAIN TEXT *
* If your postings display this message your mail program *
* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting *
* * * * *

-----=_NextPart_000_002D_01C1D28A.5AFE2750--

Date: Sun, 24 Mar 2002 06:22:18 -0500
From: BEN NOCK <G4BXD@compuserve.com>
Subject: Halli HT-7 ?
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-ID: <200203240622_MC3-F6F9-A111@compuserve.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Disposition: inline

I have a Hallicrafters HT-7 Frequency Standard.

Anyone know its specifications etc ?

thanks, Ben G4BXD.

new pics at: <http://www.qsl.net/g4bxd/g4bxd5.htm>

Message-Id: <3.0.6.32.20020324112935.02670e30@mail.nova.org>
Date: Sun, 24 Mar 2002 11:29:35 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: Tom B <tbryan@nova.org>
Subject: Re: Mechanical filter repair website
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hello All,

>The good news, is that this page has a great set of photos on
>mechanical filter repair. The bad news, is that it's in Japanese...
>Oh well... the pictures are interesting!
><http://www.ksky.ne.jp/~t-kato/hamf/myexp/MF-Repair.html>

Babelfish will translate Japanese web pages (at least it will give it a
good try). See:
<http://babelfish.altavista.com/>

Tom Bryan
tbryan@nova.org

Message-ID: <3C9E076F.868CC5F2@bw.webex.net>
Date: Sun, 24 Mar 2002 12:05:51 -0500
From: Al Klase <skywaves@bw.webex.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
CC: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Halli HT-7 ?
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

HT-7, an interesting device. This is how you put your SX-28 on frequency, for instance when waiting from a transmission from one of your agents. It's based on a special crystal, made by Bliley I think, that has resonances at both 1MHz and 100Khz. It also contains a 6N7 dual triode, connected as a multivibrator, that divides the 100KHz signal by ten. Thus, you get calibration points at 10, 100, or 1000KHz intervals. The output is tuned in four bands to make sure the harmonic you're listening to is sufficiently strong. The manual is on BAMA at <http://bama.sbc.edu/hallicra.htm>

My experience with these is that the crystals have aged to the point where you will no longer be able to adjust it to exactly 100KHz.

73,
Al

BEN NOCK wrote:

>
> I have a Hallicrafters HT-7 Frequency Standard.
>
> Anyone know its specifications etc ?

--

Al Klase - N3FRQ
skywaves@bw.webex.net
Flemington, NJ 08822
Web Page: <http://www.webex.net/~skywaves/home.htm>

Message-ID: <001501c1d359\$0ad70ba0\$ad1156d1@default>
From: "David L. Thompson" <thompson@mindspring.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: ER article on the Missing SSB Report
Date: Sun, 24 Mar 2002 12:26:29 -0500

There was a fine article by Chuck Teeters W4MEW in this months Electric Radio on the 1934 SSB Report by then Technical Editor of QST Jim Lamb. The article was published in 1935 but as Chuck points out was cut off in the middle and never listed in any index. Here is one reason why....

ARRL was always strongly CW but did pay lip service to AM. SSB was considered an experimental mode as late as 1957. In 1935 Jim Lamb (an innovative fellow) was on to SSB while most hams were trying to figure how to get on AM. Warner under the direction of the board probably stopped the SSB article in mid track as they feared the professionals in their ranks would laugh and consider this a big joke (this comment came from long time ARRL Director Vic Canfield). There were articles in the late 40's on SSB (SSSC) and even a column but when Mr. Budlong replaced Warner after his death he moved to again stop all the SSB articles. I got this pearl of wisdom from

Lew McCoy. Budlong was responsible with the AM revolt that caused the formation of the National Amateur Radio Club (NARC) due to his CW forever bent. Lew McCoy was brought in to be the lone AM staffer in the early 50's and he remembers the disdain the ARRL staff had for phone of any type. The NARC crisis was solved by Budlong backing down from his No phone position in QST and by 1953 it was over.

SSB advertisements were becoming prominent in QST so the advertising \$\$\$ spoke louder than Budlong. There never was a column on SSB again in QST but by 1957 SSB articles started appearing regularly. ARRL went along merrily supporting such things as the 5763.

Try to find anything on NARC in QST..that is another subject they brushed under the rug.

Chuck's article said there was still no mention of the Lamb article, but if you look in the QST search on the ARRL members only page its there now! You need to look up Single sideband and or Lamb, James J. not Jim Lamb.

ARRL today is much more open than in 1935 to 1957. That is due to the likes of Vic Canfield and Phil Spencer. There are still subjects that are taboo today but the Board of Directors keeps it open and won't let the HQ staff hid in Newington and make unilateral decisions (although they seem to do so every so often).

73 Dave K4JRB

Assistant Director, ARRL SE Division

Message-Id: <3.0.32.20020324123942.029538c0@mindspring.com>

Date: Sun, 24 Mar 2002 12:39:43 -0500

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

From: Steve Modena <AB4EL@mindspring.com>

Subject: Unknown Boatanchor - Can You Identify?

Cc: glowbugs@piobaire.mines.uidaho.edu, BOATANCHORS@LISTSERV.TEMPE.GOV,
K1rmc@aol.com

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

If you know the answer, would you reply directly to Mark, please.

===== original Message =====

From: K1rmc@aol.com

Hi Steve:

I recently acquired a VX-101 Jr. transmitter. It covers 80-40-20m VFO controlled with an 807 final. It appears to be a circa 1946 "updated" version of a circuit that appeared in the 1941 Radio Handbook. The main difference is the front panel dial and bandswitching rather than plug-in coils.

Any ideas on who built it? Anybody else have one? I'm basically cleaning it up now and replacing caps etc. Despite being in a barn for a number of years it is in remarkably good shape.

Thanks for any assistance.

73 Mark K1RMC

Date: Sun, 24 Mar 2002 11:33:04 -0800
From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
Subject: more on buying resistors online
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <0GTH00ENDSYK7I@mta5.snfc21.pbi.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Anchorists;

My previous posting, "Where, oh where is an online distributor that stocks a comprehensive line of 1/2, 1 and 2 watt 2% resistors? With online ordering?", didn't net any useful results. I got three suggestions but they were duds although I thank the fellows for trying to help. Let me be more precise: In the service trade there are several brands of so called "flameproof resistors" that usually come bubble packed with 1/4, 1/2, 1, and 2 watt, 2% metal oxide parts. I have seen and purchased them over the years with brand names like RCA, ECG, NTE and others I don't remember. Numerous distributors carry them but because of computer optimized inventories in businesses that are controlling costs in order to survive on thin margins it's rather a crap shoot to find these resistors in any value and power. The major distributors Antique, Digi-Key, Mouser, Allied, Newark and RatShack don't cover the full line of 2% resistors. Antique seems to think multiples of 18 were never used in old radios. 'Cept the McIntosh MC75's

I'm restoring each have five 18K 1W resistors (No wonder nobody wants to own a McIntosh, they didn't know 18K was forbidden!). NTE supplies every value and wattage to distributors but you cannot buy direct from them. I sent an e-mail and the sales honchess told me to use their links to distributors. To no avail, they either show no inventory for the parts I want or their website inventory search engines are broken down. Is this the great age of communications I've been told I should be so thankful for???? I still would like to know if any outfit exists that wants business enough to provide online service. While waiting for an answer I have another windmill to attend to.....

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

Message-ID: <0a5f01c1d373\$f73c2ba0\$6401a8c0@ec.rr.com>
From: "Al Parker" <anchor@ec.rr.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: New Website Address
Date: Sun, 24 Mar 2002 15:39:16 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

And that's a great article you did on it in the latest QST. Looking fwd to pts 2 & 3.

73,

Al, W8UT

New Bern, NC

BoatAnchors appreciated here

anchor@ec.rr.com

<http://www.thecompendium.net/radio/>

<http://www.hammarlund.info/>

And remember; "-They don't make tubes nowadays like they used to..."

----- Original Message -----

From: "James C. Garland" <4cx250b@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>

snip

> Also, I mentioned about a year ago that I was building a high-power
> autotuner to replace my trusty "Ultimate Transmatch." Well, it's done now
> --finally!--and if you're interested you can check it out at
> www.w8zr.net/eztuner/ .
> Jim Garland W8ZR

Date: Sun, 24 Mar 2002 17:27:40 -0800
From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>

Subject: Re: ER article on the Missing SSB Report
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <0GTI00EHR9GN4X@mta5.snfc21.pbi.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hi David;

> ARRL was always strongly CW but did pay lip service to AM.

This reminds me of why I laugh when I hear or read how amateur radio stands for technical progress and innovation. ARRL, God bless their necessary but evil souls, is a political animal just like any other organization run by human beings.

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

Message-Id: <5.1.0.14.0.20020324174028.02d37d70@pop.west.cox.net>
Date: Sun, 24 Mar 2002 17:41:20 -0800
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: Jim Hill <w6ivw@cox.net>
Subject: Re: more on buying resistors online
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Arden:

When checking distributors, don't forget Mouser, www.mouser.com. I didn't see any 2%ers, but they did stock 1% and 5% resistors thru 1 watt. If you can put up with these tolerances and parallel for 2 watt, Mouser has some advantages, such as no minimum and relatively reasonable prices. Minimum quantity is 10 of each value. They have 1/4 and 1/2 watt 5% carbon comp resistors, too.

They have an on-line catalog, but I prefer their print catalog (order it on-line, if I remember correctly) and just use their on-line data to verify current stock.

73's Jim, w6ivw

Message-ID:
<07A064EA6042D4118A62009027F70E77181E87@nt_exchange.vifp.monash.edu.au>
From: Morris Odell <MorrisO@vifp.monash.edu.au>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Dead parrot
Date: Mon, 25 Mar 2002 13:10:30 +1100
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Hi all,

It was a bit like the Monty Python Dead Parrot sketch. "Beautiful Instrument" said the hamfest vendor. "There's RF at the terminals", he said poking at them with a convenient scope probe. "Beautiful Instrument". It looked nice and clean, the gold plated terminals a bit worn, but all there. The label was seductive - "Boonton Electronics RF Admittance Bridge 33B/1" - they knew a bit about that RF stuff didn't they? There was the elegant box of work coils all present in their little recesses and an original manual. "Beautiful Instrument", and so cheap - I was hooked.

Alas when it followed me home, if not quite dead it was limping severely and bits of it were certainly moribund if not downright necrotic.

Well, no redress - the hamfest long over, it was time for action.

The Boonton 33B/1 is an RF admittance bridge which measures reactance and admittance at 7 spot frequencies from 1 MHz to 100 MHz. It's just the job if you are having an argument about whether those newfangled metal film resistors are any good at RF (sound familiar?). It consists of an oscillator with seven switched crystals to generate the RF signal which is applied to a lovely bridge circuit - all silver & gold plated components and elegant if disturbingly complex drive mechanisms (I hope I never have to re-string the dials). There are 2 dials which read out capacitance and admittance directly once the bridge is nulled.

The output of the bridge section is mixed with the output of another seven-crystal switched oscillator to give a 465 KHz IF which is amplified, detected and applied to the null detector meter. There is also a facility to apply DC to the test terminals to allow testing of devices like varicaps.

Of course, it's hollow state with 5 vacuum tubes and 3 VR tubes:-)

The exciter seemed to be working (lots of RF on the terminals, but I knew that) but I could only get a null on the 50 and 100 MHz ranges. It soon became apparent that the heterodyne oscillator was only working on those 2 bands. Also an 0B2 was glowing the wrong colour - flashes of neon orange instead of cool pale violet. Replacing the dud 0B2 and substituting the 6DJ8 oscillator tube were no help though.

Time to pick up the screwdriver again - these Boonton guys didn't skimp on the RF-tightness of their oscillator compartments - there a LOT of screws to undo. You don't want to do that too often. The oscillator circuitry is tightly packed but it was possible to see a charred component only one or two layers under the surface. Mercifully the heterodyne oscillator is the

more accessible of the two, but that's not saying much. It turned out a 10K 1 watt resistor feeding one plate of the 6DJ8 was incinerated. The yellow polyester bypass cap on the plate end tested OK but I can only assume it was the problem since the tube is OK. Another 10K deep down was a bit low in value but impossible to replace without extreme measures. The corresponding components on the other oscillator were pristine.

When the resistor and the two bypasses were replaced the oscillator worked properly. The question is, why did it work at all on 2 bands with the open resistor there? The circuit is subtly different on those 2 bands with an additional cathode resistor switched in. I haven't analyzed it fully, but obviously the oscillator circuit is different at VHF, only requiring one half of the twin triode. The mechanism of failure probably involved the B+ increasing when the VR tube failed. This stressed the resistor to the point where it failed. Why the other osc didn't go the same way is a mystery. Its 6DJ8 is in a screwed down metal sheath which I am loth to disturb.

I put it all back together (more RSI) and tried it out. It works pretty well but the various tweaks had to be adjusted to get it to work properly on all bands. One can imagine that when it first failed someone tried to "align" it but when that failed it ended up on the junk trail to the hamfest.

So it's a "Beautiful Instrument" after all. For the "network-analyzer challenged" community who still know how to do the sums it's just wonderful. I don't need such an instrument often but this one's going to stay with me for a long time.

Morris

End of BOATANCHORS Digest 3312
